

DRIEHAUS RESOLUTION HONORING CIVIL RIGHTS GAME WINS PASSAGE IN HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

WASHINGTON, DC—Representative Steve Driehaus today welcomed passage in the House of Representatives of a resolution he introduced honoring the third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game and recognizing the historical significance of holding the game in Cincinnati.

“The Civil Rights Game pays tribute to our nation’s long struggle toward equality, and honors those who fought this battle on and off the field. It’s fitting that this game should come to Cincinnati, where civil rights and baseball have been part of the city’s history since the days of the Underground Railroad. I’m proud to sponsor this resolution, and I appreciate the support of Chairman John Conyers in recognizing this important game,” said Rep. Driehaus.

The resolution, which was cosponsored by House Judiciary Committee Chairman John Conyers, Jr. (D-MI), passed the House by voice vote.

Text of the resolution follows.

RESOLUTION

Commending the purpose of the third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game and recognizing the historical significance of the location of the game in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Whereas the third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game is being held in Cincinnati, Ohio, at the Great American Ballpark on June 20, 2009;

Whereas the Cincinnati Reds, the host of the Civil Rights Baseball Game, are recognized as being the first professional baseball team in the United States;

Whereas the Major League Baseball Civil Rights Game was created to honor those who fought both on and off the field for the equal treatment of all people;

Whereas baseball was at the forefront of the civil rights movement and was integrated before either the Armed Forces or the public schools;

Whereas Cincinnati, Ohio, was home to the Negro League's Cincinnati Tigers from 1934 to 1937;

Whereas Cincinnati, Ohio, was an integral stop along the Underground Railroad as one of the first free "stations" slaves would encounter when escaping north; and

Whereas Cincinnati, Ohio, is home to the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center, which opened in 2004:

Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commend the purpose of the third annual Civil Rights Baseball Game; and

(2) recognize the historical significance of the location of the Civil Rights Baseball Game in Cincinnati, Ohio.

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